

## **CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

1. (currently amended) The method according to claim 23 wherein said aqueous solution further comprises:
  - a. from about 30 mEq to about 95 mEq of sodium per liter; and
  - b. from about 10 mEq to about 30 mEq of potassium per liter; ~~and~~
  - c. ~~less than about 3.0 wt./wt.% of one carbohydrate.~~
2. (original) The method according to claim 1 in which said aqueous solution contains chloride.
3. (original) The method according to claim 1 in which said carbohydrate is a mixture of dextrose and fructose.
4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein said carbohydrate is present in a quantity of less than about 2.5 wt/wt%.
5. (original) The method according to claim 1 in which said sodium is present in the quantity of about 30 mEq/L to about 70 mEq/L.
6. (original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said sodium is selected from the group consisting of sodium chloride, sodium citrate, sodium bicarbonate, sodium carbonate, sodium hydroxide and mixtures thereof.
7. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 in which said potassium is present in the quantity of about 15 mEq/L to about 25 mEq/L.
8. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein said potassium is selected from the group consisting of potassium citrate, potassium chloride, potassium bicarbonate, potassium carbonate, potassium hydroxide and mixtures thereof.
9. (previously presented) The method according to claim 23 in which said zinc is present in the quantity of from about 0.6 mEq/L to about 5 mEq/L.
  10. (previously presented) The method according to claim 23 in which said zinc is present in the quantity of from about 0.6 mEq/L to about 1.2 mEq/L.

11. (currently amended) The method according to claim 23 in which said zinc is selected from the group consisting of zinc gluconate, ~~zinc sulfonate~~, zinc chloride, ~~zinc acetate~~, zinc sulfate, zinc citrate, zinc carbonate, zinc hydroxide, zinc lactate, zinc acetate, zinc fluoride, and zinc bromide, zinc sulfonate.

12. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2 in which said chloride is present in the quantity of from about 30 mEq/L to about 80 mEq/L.

13. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2 in which said chloride is selected from the group consisting of potassium chloride, sodium chloride, and zinc chloride.

14. (previously presented) The method according to claim 23 in which said citrate is present in the quantity of from about 20 mEq/L to about 40 mEq/L.

15. (previously presented) The method according to claim 23 in which said citrate is selected from the group consisting of potassium citrate, sodium citrate, and citric acid.

16-22 (canceled)

23. (previously presented) A method for providing a zinc-containing ~~good tasting~~ aqueous solution with improved palatability, said method comprising administering to a human said aqueous solution comprising:

- a. from about 0.3 mEq to about 95 mEq of zinc per liter; ~~and~~
- b. from about 10 mEq to about 40 mEq of citrate per liter, and
- c. a carbohydrate,

wherein the carbohydrate is maintained within the composition at less than about 3% w/w.